

*Remain relevant in DDC/Knoche*

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Executive Registry

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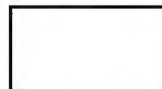
Note for the Record

I met with Vice President Walter Mondale in his White House office this morning to say farewell. Before I could say anything, the Vice President told me that he believed that this was a major loss of a national asset, a true national asset, in my departure. He said that CIA now stands aces high in public opinion. The reason is that the Agency, unlike the FBI, chose to open up to explain itself and show itself in the course of review and investigation. The Agency took some battering in this but the upshot was public understanding and approval.

The Vice President said that in his view two people deserve huge credit for having brought all this about and they were two people who will never obtain the credit they deserve because of the nature of things. Those two people are Bill Colby and Hank Knoche.

Vice President Mondale asked me what my plans were. I said I had none immediately but thought I would get into industry or business, quite possibly in Colorado. He said that he would be willing to do all possible to help to locate a future assignment and would be glad to serve as a reference, make telephone calls or do whatever else may be helpful. I thanked the Vice President for all these things, told him that I had felt privileged to work for him and the President and to have been a part of this Administration as well as those in the past. I said I would be glad at any time to be helpful either in an ad hoc capacity or otherwise as the Administration moves into the future. I said that I leave the Agency, which I think is a great one, with no bitterness nor regrets. The Agency has treated me well and I have given it my best shot for over 24 years.

The Vice President wished me well and the meeting came to an end.



E. H. Knoche

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